

The experience of the introduction of the inspection of sprayers in use from one Member State's point of view

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The requirement in the EU directive 2009/128/EC regarding inspection of sprayers resulted in a need for a national set up of such a system in Denmark, since we did not previously have such a requirement for sprayers in Denmark. We went through the following process during the last few years:

- We got inspiration from the inspection-systems already established in other countries e.g. in the Netherlands and Sweden.
- We decided on the overall structure of the inspection system and made national regulation:
 - Establishment of a three year phase-in period for having all pesticide application equipment inspected not later than November 2016.
 - An authorization process for inspection companies
 - An education process for the inspectors
 - A process for the control of the inspection companies
- We established an expert group consisting of various types of experts on the field:
 - We produced a guideline that in detail explains the national regulation and that in detail describes how the inspection should be carried out. This was based on the standards.
 - We developed inspection reports for the inspection
- We launched an application process for companies that would like to become authorized as inspection companies and we established an education for inspectors (4 days with test)
- We made a contract with a company that will carry out control of and give guidance to the inspection companies.
- We had an IT system developed to be used by inspectors, the Danish EPA and the control company.
- We developed a sticker system for the inspected sprayers and a system for paying fees to the Danish EPA for those stickers in order to have all our expenses covered.

At present our main problems are the following:

- Farmers hesitate to have their sprayers inspected
- Many authorized inspection companies with educated staff and with all equipment in house still hesitate carrying out inspection of sprayers.
- It will be difficult to check if all sprayers in use have been inspected before November 2016
- We find it difficult to develop risk assessments to decide on different timelines for inspection for different types of sprayers.

We find it difficult to be ready with inspection systems for all kinds of sprayers in time to be able to meet the deadline November 2016 – e.g. due to lack of standards for inspection of certain types of sprayers.